

DECLASSIFIED AND RELEASED BY
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
SOURCES METHODS EXEMPTION 3B2
NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT
DATE 2006

Subject : Growth and activities of the Holy War Committee
Place Acquired : Beirut, Lebanon
Evaluation: B-2
Source : []

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1. According to source, the al-Jihad al-Muqaddas (^xHoly War Fighters) has grown to more than two hundred carefully selected men in Syria and Lebanon. Its organizer, ^xTorabi ABU-DAYYI, now plans to send two representatives to the Grand Mufti in Cairo very soon to explain to him in detail what has been accomplished.

In Damascus, during the past week, Akram HAURANI, Syrian Defense Minister and Mufti supporter, told ABU-DAYYI that all possible assistance would be given to the Holy War Committee on receipt of a statement from the Mufti that he wanted the organization developed. So far it has been all ABU-DAYYI.

2. Source states that the most valuable recent recruit into the Holy War Fighters is ^xShaykh ISHRAFYYI (or SHIRAFYYI), a Moslem Brotherhood leader from Syria.

3. Muhammad Nimer AWDAH, supposedly a Mosed man but regarded by source as a secret Communist, knows of the Holy War Fighters. He is noted, however, a member, since ABU-DAYYI regards him with considerable suspicion.

Field Notes:

The Holy War Committee has been reported in RLB's-1898, 1900 and 1931.

Para 1 : For ABU-DAYYI see RLB's-1860, 1898, etc.

Para 2 : For Akram HAURANI see RLB's-1816, 1922, etc.

Para 3 : Shaykh ISHRAFYYI is undoubtedly Shaykh Mustafa SIBA'I, member of the Syrian Constituent Assembly and Mufti man.

Para 4 : AWDAH has been reported in RLB's-1860, 1907, and RSD-489 as a Communist.